ST/ESA/SER.R/25

NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POPULATION POLICY, 1960-1976

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Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

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PREFACE

Since the World Population Conference was held under the auspices of the United Nations in 1974, there has been growing interest among policy makers in the complex interrelationships between population and development, with the area of population policy being one of increasing concern.

The following study is one of a series of reports prepared during 1975 and 1976 by the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in an attempt to disseminate information among interested Governments and scholars on the experience of various Governments in formulating and implementing population policies. It is intended that the series, when completed, will include all countries in the world and will examine the variety of situations and solutions adopted by Governments, which have often been determined by particular historical, political, socio-economic or cultural circumstances. The information included in the series would be useful to the national bodies assisting Governments in the area of population and related fields, as well as to the international organizations which are attempting to increase the knowledge of ways in which Governments may most effectively resolve problems associated with population.

Although the reports have been prepared with all possible care, there may possibly be errors or omissions. Comments or corrections from Governments would be appreciated.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Until 1970 Oman was almost completely traditional in the form of its societal organization and technology. The first period defined for the purposes of this study consist of the decade from 1960 to 1970, and constitutes the base from which the very late entry into contact with modern technology and organization has been made. A change in Government in 1970 responded to the impulse for modernization which had resulted from the first exports of petroleum. Substantial changes in institutional arrangements for development planning and for information collection and analysis occurred during the brief period from 1970 to 1976, which constitutes the second period defined for the purpose of this study. During these years, the principal demographic change has been substantial immigration in response to the expansion in construction, mainly in urban areas. Although there is likely to have been some impact upon levels of morbidity and mortality and consequently upon fertility, and some impact upon the spatial distribution of the indigenous population, the short period has been insufficient for very great demographic changes to have occurred, and to have been registered. The present study is of interest in its examination of the context for population policy formulation and implementation provided by the juxtaposition of a largely pre-modern demographic situation which has been maintained until the 1970s, and the rapid appearance of modern methods of development planning.

I. THE PERIOD 1960-1970

The political and economic situation

After a long history of commercial prosperity the integration of the country within the British colonial economic system during the latter part of the nineteenth century resulted in severe economic stagnation which lasted until the latter part of the 1960s. The extension of international interest in potential oil production to the country's territory and adjacent areas resulted in clashes with Saudi Arabia during the period 1949-1952, and oil prospecting in 1954 contributed to political instability in the interior region of Oman during the mid 1950s. In 1964 oil was discovered. In 1967 the first exports began and were immediately stimulated by the dislocation of previous international movements as a result of the war between Israel and Arab countries. In 1965 a guerilla movement broke out in the Dhofar province, which was then still only tenuously integrated with other regions of the country. Very little societal change had occurred by the end of the 1970s and the system of government in particular remained traditional. This resulted in an increasing discrepancy between it and the needs for reform which were stimulated by the increasing revenues from the oil sector. In July 1970 the reigning Sultan, Said bin Taimur, was replaced by his son, Qabus bin Said.

Development planning

In 1958 an agreement was concluded with the Government of the United Kingdom whereby the latter was to assist in the implementation of a civil development programme. This was to include the improvement of roads and medical and educational facilities and the creation of an agricultural research programme. As a result of the agreement a Development Department was established in 1959, and United Kingdom financial assistance increased considerably: by 1963/64 it totalled £190,000. Of this, 46 per cent was allocated to health and 15 per cent to agriculture.

Although revenues from the oil sector began before the discovery of oil in 1964, income was limited to prospecting fees and expenditure. Even after oil exports began in 1967, government revenues were limited; in 1968 they were only $8.0 million. Consequently, development expenditures were still limited. In 1968 it was reported that the Economic Adviser to the Government, Dr. Wendell Phillips, had stated that the Sultan intended shortly to announce the formation of a Reconstruction Board to carry out development projects, and some attempt was made to draw up a development plan. In June 1969 the United Nations Secretariat reported that the Government's Economic Adviser had stated that increased revenues from the oil sector would make possible investment in electricity and water provision and in the development of the port of

Matrah. It was planned to construct hospitals and schools. In 1967 oil production was 3.2 million tons. This increased to 12.1 million in 1968 and 16.4 million tons in 1969. Proven oil reserves were reported in August 1970 to be estimated at 680 million tons.

Information on the general demographic situation and trends

Almost no demographic information was available to the Government or to any other agency during this period. Some summaries of available information within general reviews of the situation were published outside the country in 1953 and 1957. In a survey of available information on contemporary trends in population growth in the Arab countries of the Middle East published in 1965, no reference was made to the demographic situation in the country. In 1970 the United Nations demographic training and research centre in Cairo published a collection of papers on demographic measures and population growth in Arab countries, based upon research undertaken during 1968 and 1969. No separate papers were included concerning Oman, and it was not represented in the tabulations of estimates for the Arab countries.

General policy with regard to the demographic situation and trends

No statement of the Government perceptions of the interrelationships between demographic and other processes and no statement of policy is known to have been made during the period. Until 1969, there was no intergovernmental regional agency available to assist the Government in the formulation of its policy. Only in 1969 was a Population Unit established at the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (UNESOB). This subsequently began a programme of data consolidation and evaluation, technical assistance and research which filled a severely felt need in many of the countries in the region. The Government policy must be assumed to have been one of laissez-faire in the context of the traditional structure of societal processes.

Size and growth of the population

Information available to the Government

Only very general estimates of the size and rate of increase of population were available prior to and during the period. In 1946 an estimate of about 0.5 million had been published in a foreign general survey of the countries in the region. An American general survey of the country published in 1956 reported a total population of 550,000. It was considered that crude birth rates balanced crude death rates at levels of about 60 per thousand of the population, with a consequent lack of population growth by natural increase. As emigration was later reported to have been considerable during the 1960s, it is possible that any rise in rates of natural increase resulting from slight mortality decline was compensated by this emigration, with consequent very low

rates of population growth. In 1959 it was reported in a general study published abroad that the total population was then generally estimated to number about half a million. In February 1968 the United Nations Secretariat reported that the total population was estimated as being over 0.75 million. It was subsequently reported by UNESOB, in January and June 1973, that a severe reduction in population through emigration had occurred during previous decades.

Government perception of size and growth in relation to development objectives

No information is available on the Government perception of size and rates of growth of population during the period. Because of high rates of mortality and emigration, it is probable that the labour force available was never perceived to be excessive. This appears to be confirmed by earlier reports of the importation of slaves to work in the plantations. It was reported in a survey of slavery in the region published in 1956 that, at least as late as the early 1950s, there had been considerable evidence that slavery continued to exist. The plantations in the Batinah area of Oman were then manned to a substantial extent by slaves obtained from Africa and from the Baluchi areas of Iran and Pakistan

Policy with regard to size and growth

No statement of the Government policy with regard to population size and growth is known to have been made during the period. It is unlikely that any attempt to adjust rates of natural increase was made. Attempts to limit emigration may have been made.

Morbidity and mortality

Information available to the Government

An American survey published in 1956 noted that mortality, and particularly infant mortality, was thought to be extremely high. The dominant health problem was malnutrition and undernutrition. Chronic malnutrition severely weakened individuals, particularly children, and contributed both to diseases directly caused by dietary deficiencies, and other diseases. Tuberculosis, trachoma and venereal diseases were prevalent. Lack of environmental health measures resulted in a high incidence of dysenteries. However, it was noted that epidemic diseases, smallpox, cholera and plague had been checked by international and local control measures. Malaria persisted in a few areas, particularly in Muscat and Dhofar. Traditional medical practices were not generally considered to be effective. Personal hygiene and public environmental health are very poor. Other authors of general studies of the country, including the Economic Adviser to the Sultan, in a study published in 1966, referred to the extremely low health and nutrition status of the population prior to 1970, and to the prevalence of perceptions of indigenous medicine which largely served to severely exacerbate the health problem.

Government perception of levels of morbidity and mortality

It may be presumed that the Government considered that levels of morbidity and mortality were excessive, particularly in view of the remarks made in 1966 by the then Economic Adviser.

Policy with regard to morbidity and mortality

In 1956 the American general survey reported that an American Protestant missionary hospital was located at Matrah, with a staff which toured Oman and the then Trucial States (later the United Arab Emirates). It was planned to establish a clinic at Nizwa in Oman. Following the 1958 agreement whereby the Government of the United Kingdom was to participate in a civil development programme, increased financial assistance was provided, of which in 1963-1964 46 per cent was allocated to the health centre; however, this amounted to only £90,000. No major government programmes were begun until the last years of the 1960s, when in June 1969 the United Nations Secretariat reported that increasing oil revenues would be utilized in part in a programme of hospital construction.

Fertility

Information available to the Government

In 1956 the American general survey reported that crude birth rates were probably about 60 per thousand of population, although this was stated to be nothing better than a guess. It was noted that early marriage and high fertility were universally considered desirable. The then Economic Adviser to the Sultan, in a general study of the country published in 1966, referred to high levels of fertility and to a low general status of women as being normal. No specific studies of fertility in the country during this period are known.

Government perception of levels and trends of fertility

No statement of the Government perception of levels and trends in rates of fertility is known for the period. It may be presumed that the Government considered levels of fertility to be acceptable within the context of the traditional societal structure.

Policy with regard to fertility

No statement of the Government policy with regard to fertility is known for the period. It may be presumed that the policy was one of non-adjustment of fertility.

Immigration

No information on immigration is available. It was reported in a study of slavery in the region published in 1956 that the immigration of slaves from Africa and from Iranian and Pakistani areas of Baluchistan had occurred, to provide labour for plantations in the Batinah area. No Government statements of its perception of immigration, or of its policies, are known to have been made during this period.

Emigration

Although no statistics are available, it was reported that emigration had been considerable prior to the 1970s, particularly during the 1960s when demand for labour was substantial in the oil-producing countries to the north. Emigration included a high proportion of the educated and trained labour force, in response not only to the demand in the region but also to the lack of employment opportunities in the stagnant economy and the limited rate of modernization of the public sector. No statement of the Government perception or policy during the period is known to have been made.

Spatial distribution

Information available to the Government

In 1956 an American general survey of the country reported estimated total populations for urban centres as follows: 2,000 for Salalah, out of a total population of 100,000 for the Dhofar region; 15,000 for Nizwa out of a total of 150,000 for the region (Oman); 12,000 for Sur, out of a total of 25,000 for the Jalan region; 8,000 for Suhar and 8,000 for Khaburah, out of a total of 200,000 for the Batinah region; and 12,000 for Matrah and 8,000 for Muscat, out of a total of 75,000 for that region.

The long established urban system could be described as atropied as a result of the general economic stagnation of the country. That is, although a system of urban central places existed, the populations were smaller than at their peak, and the centres had virtually no ability to generate change in the dependant rural areas. Slightly over 10 per cent of the population were estimated to be resident in urban areas.

Government perception of spatial distribution

No statement of the Government perception of the acceptability of the pattern of spatial distribution of the population is known to have been made during the period.

Policy with regard to spatial distribution

No statement of the Government policy with regard to spatial distribution of the population is known to have been made during the period. In September 1966 the United Nations Secretariat reported that a United Kingdom firm of architects and planners were commissioned by the Sultan to prepare a development plan for the region of Muscat and Matrah. Construction work was to begin in 1967.

II. THE PERIOD 1970-1976

The political and economic situation

In July 1970 Sultan Said bin Taimur was replaced by his son, Quabus bin Said. Subsequently substantial changes were made in the structure of Government, and, with rapidly increasing revenues from oil and considerable international assistance, economic expansion, modernization of infrastructure and national integration took place.

Development planning

In 1970 the new Government announced its intention of using oil revenues for the socio-economic transformation of the country. However, at least until the rise in oil revenues in 1974 and 1975, the country was not considered "oil rich". In December 1971 the United Nations Interdisciplinary Reconnaissance Mission recommended that the country should be considered as similar to a hard-core least developed countries as identified by the United Nations Committee for Development Planning. This reflected the very low technological and organizational base from which the process of development had to begin, and the much larger size and population of the country as compared to some of the other oil-exporting countries of the region.

During this period the Government established a modern institutional system for development planning. In March 1971 a Ministry of Economy was established, with responsibilities for development planning. In September 1972 the Sultan announced the establishment of a Supreme Council for Economic Planning and Development (Decree No. 15/1972 of 27 September 1972). The Chairman was to be the Sultan, assisted by a deputy chairman, a secretary, and the head of a newly created Centre for Economic and Development Planning. The duties of the Council were to include defining policy for economic and development planning, planning the redistribution of revenues to achieve economic diversification and preparing a comprehensive economic development plan "based upon scientific studies, taking into consideration all priority projects". The Centre for Economic and Development Planning was assigned functions which included implementing the policy adopted by the Supreme Council. The Centre was to consist of a Department of Planning, Department of Technical and Constructive Co-operation, and a Directorate for Sector Co-ordination. One of the reported functions of the Department of Planning was the preparation of a comprehensive five-year plan before 31 October 1975.

In 1973 the Ministry of Economy was reorganized as the Ministry of Development, and its function as a central planning body was strengthened. In June 1973 the Government stated that a first draft of a national

development plan, then being prepared, would be ready by October 1975. In September 1974 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported that the first Development Plan was then being prepared, and would come into effect in January 1975 for the period 1975-1977. International assistance had been requested for recruitment of planning advisers. With revenues rising to $US 156,000,000 in 1972 as a result of petroleum exports, rapid progress was being made in the provision of physical infrastructure and basic social services. Development objectives were summarized as: continued extension of physical infrastructure; improvement of social services; development of national institutions; and economic diversification. In the first Statistical Yearbook published in November 1974, the Government reported that revenue had increased from 50.1 million Omani rials in 1971 to 68.5 million in 1973. Expenditure had increased from 46.0 million to 92.9 million between 1971 and 1973, and the portion spent on development had increased from 20.0 million to 29.9 million Omani rials. It was only in 1974 and 1975 that the previously gradual rate of increase in revenues accelerated significantly.

A former foreign adviser and subsequent member of the Government during the period 1972-1975 stated in a study published in 1977 that early in 1976 there was no development programme for the country as a whole, although a summary regional development plan for Dhofar had been adopted in October 1972.

Information on the general demographic situation and trends

At the beginning of the period demographic information was still very limited. In 1972 the United Nations Cairo Demographic Centre published a collection of papers on the growth of population and the labour force in Arab countries, based on research carried out during 1970 and 1971. No papers were included with respect to Oman, and it was not included in the three comparative studies for Arab countries.

The first external assistance was made available in December 1971 when a UNESOB mission visited the country to discuss a proposed socio-demographic survey of Muscat and Matrah. The survey was to be a pilot exercise, considered of particular importance in the planning and preparatory work for the population census proposed for 1975.

The Decree of September 1972 which established the Supreme Council for Economic and Development Planning stated that a Unit for National Statistics would be established and would be the responsibility of the Centre for Economic and Development Planning. In December 1972 a second UNESOB mission reported that no system for vital statistics registration existed and that, as no census had been held, the fact that there existed only estimates of total population which varied as widely as from 0.5 million to 1.5 million was a serious constraint upon development planning.

In 1972 the first of a series of statistical yearbooks and general summaries was issued by the National Statistical Department within the General Development Organization. It noted that the need for reliable co-ordinated information for scientific development planning and administration had been keenly felt in the recent past. Many areas of weakness in information remained, including those of land utilization and population.

In a request for assistance from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), transmitted in June 1973, the Government stated that it was fully aware that reliable data on the demographic, social and economic situation were essential if the first draft of the development plan was to be based on a clear understanding of the dynamics of the population situation. Since no census had been taken, it was considered important to take one, however simple, as soon as possible. A socio-demographic survey would be an important part of the preparatory work. In July 1973 UNESOB reported that its assistance in the undertaking of a socio-demographic survey had been requested. The Government originally intended to include only the metropolitan region of Muscat-Matrah, but subsequently decided to include Sohar, Nizwa and Sur, urban centres characteristic of three distinct regions of the country. In its reply to the Second United Nations Population Inquiry in August 1973 the Government identified lack of information as one of three main constraints upon development. In January 1974 UNESOB reported that the socio-demographic survey was to be conducted by itself and the Ministry of Development. In July 1974 UNESOB reported that the Government still attached great importance to the socio-demographic survey of the five cities. The National Statistical Department had formulated a project aimed at improving birth and death registration. A new system of vital registration was to come into force in January 1974.

In November 1974 the Government reported that the trial social and demographic survey of the five towns--Muscat, Matrah, Sur, Sohar and Nizwa--was to be completed by the Ministry of Development, assisted by the United Nations, by the end of 1974. A National Statistics Committee and a National Census Committee had been formed. In July 1974 the Government reported that UNFPA had promised assistance in the holding of a population survey and census "in the near future", in co-ordination with the Ministry of Development." The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was to co-operate with the Ministry of Development on a one-year project in which basic economic and social data on the rural population would be collected. In September 1974 the Government reported that although a number of partial social and economic surveys of the agricultural sector had been carried out, no reliable data existed on rural population, land use, family income, crop production, livestock numbers and production, prices of agricultural produce and economic conditions at the village level. A project, to be included in the UNDP country programme, would include preparatory assistance in the collection of basic economic and social

data on the rural population. It was reported that a resolution had been issued by the Ministry of Development to conduct the first population census in the Sultanate in the near future.

In September 1974 UNDP reported that its assistance was required in order for the country to create a specialized modern statistical service and reorganize the national statistical department. A general census was to be held "within a few years", and meanwhile several demographic studies were planned in selected regions. On the basis of these surveys and the census the Government might later consider requesting assistance in human resource planning.

Although the Government transmitted a reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry (population policies in the context of development in 1976) in December 1976, it stated that its ability to evaluate the acceptability of demographic trends was completely restrained by the insufficiency of its information on them.

General policy with regard to the demographic situation and trends

Until 1970 the country had remained in almost complete isolation from the rest of the world, and had absorbed to only an extremely limited extent modern technology and organization. After 1970 the Government identified technological and organizational modernization as the best means of using the country's human and physical resources. The high levels of mortality, unhealthy and unsanitary environment for reproduction, internal distribution of population and international migration were perceived largely as problems which the application of such modernization would very largely resolve. Revenues from petroleum exports made possible a very rapid and substantial programme of action in this regard. However, modernization beginning from such a low base will take a considerable period of time, during which demographic changes may make necessary more direct attempts to adjust population behaviour.

In December 1971 staff members of UNESOB visited the country to determine the needs of the country for assistance in population and related fields.

The Government's General Development Organization replied in August 1973 to the Second United Nations Population Inquiry, but the Government did not provide a summary country statement for the purposes of the World Population Conference in 1974. It was not represented at the First Regional Population Conference held in Beirut in February 1974. It was, however, represented at the regional consultation preparatory to the Conference, held in Damascus in May 1974, where its delegation consisted of the Under-secretary in the Ministry of Development, the Director of the Statistical Department in that Ministry, and

an adviser from the Ministry. The Government was represented also at the World Population Conference itself, held in Bucharest, Romania in August 1974. The Government transmitted its reply to the United Nations Third Population Inquiry (population policies in the context of development in 1976) in December 1976.

Size and growth of the population

Information available to the Government

Only estimates of a very approximate nature are available. In August 1970 the United Nations Secretariat reported a total population of 0.75 million. However, this same figure had been quoted previously in regular reports prepared in 1966, 1967 and 1969. In December 1971 the visiting UNESOB interdisciplinary mission reported that an estimate of a little over half a million, or 680,000, had been stated to be acceptable for planning purposes. However, a second UNESOB mission, in December 1972, reported that a total for that year of about 600,000 was more likely. In its statistical yearbook for the year 1972 the Government stated that "in the absence of a comprehensive census, estimates of total population range from 450,000 to 750,000 and more". It was stated that, based upon an estimated total population of 600,000, an estimate made by the World Bank, the Economic Survey made in 1972 indicated a total labour force of 300,000 (the population of 16-60 being assumed to be half of the total), of which the assumed 150,000 males represented those "gainfully employed". In 1972 an employment survey conducted by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour with the assistance of a foreign firm of consultants stated that the total number of Omanis employed in the private sector in 1972 was 20,500, and in Government employment 4,765, excluding police and those in the armed forces.

In 1973 UNESOB again reported that accurate data on the size and structure of the population were non-existent. The total population was estimated at between 0.5 million and 1.5 million. In April 1973 the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported that the total population was over 750,000 and that the annual rate of population growth had been calculated at 3 per cent.

In November 1974 the Government stated that for planning purposes the total population was assumed to be 1.5 million. It was noted, however, that no census of population had been carried out and that no precise data were available. In September 1974 UNDP reported an estimated rate of population growth of 3 per cent per year for the period 1965-1971. After estimating in September 1974 that the population ranged from 450,000 to 750,000, UNDP stated in January 1975 that "for planning purposes, the population of Oman is assumed to be 1,500,000". It is not known if this increased total represented a revised estimate, by either the Government or UNDP, or rapid immigration and repatriation. Probably both reasons were significant. In October 1975 the Government again reported a total population of 1.5 million. A former foreign adviser and subsequent member of the Government during the period 1972-1975, in a study published in 1977, stated that:

"There has been no comprehensive population census of Oman. The Government of Oman quotes a figure of 1,500,000 people. A number of independent surveys, using modern maps produced from aerial surveys, specially flown aerial surveys, and a considerable amount of field work to check results, have all suggested a population of between 400,000 and 500,000. The first economic survey of Oman carried out in 1971 estimated a figure of 450,000. At that time, the Sultan suggested a figure of 750,000. The first World Bank team in Oman in 1972 took a figure midway between these two figures, 600,000 people, and this figure has been much quoted in documents and yearbooks published by international agencies."

The author reported an estimate of 425,000 based upon a number of economic and technical surveys made between 1972 and 1975.

In a review of available demographic information published by the Population Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) in April 1978 it was stated that the 1971 total population estimated by the World Bank mission had been 675,000, but that adopted by the Government for 1975 was 1.5 million. This had been reported also by the Government's representative at an expert group meeting on census techniques held in Beirut in December 1977. On the basis of a study of aspects of the country's demography prepared in 1977 as part of an international migration project undertaken by the Department of Economics of the University of Durham, the proportion of the population aged under 15 was estimated to be 46.2 per cent, and that aged 65 years and over, 2.0 per cent. The rate of natural increase, calculated by ECWA on the basis of unpublished information, was 3.1 per cent for 1975, and the net reproduction rate for the same year was 2.4 per cent.

Government perception of size and growth in relation to development objectives

Until the late 1960s the Government perception of demographic processes was characteristic of a traditional societal state, with demographic stability. In December 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that the Government had no general awareness of or experience of discussion of questions of population growth.

However, the large increase in capital inflow consequent upon expansion of the oil sector made necessary a re-appraisal of the interrelationship between population and development. Among the most significant factors were stated to be the abundance of unused land and water resources; the rapidity of expansion of revenues; the shortage of labour at all levels of skill; the knowledge of probable previous low rates of population growth and possible actual decline in size, together with a knowledge of still high mortality and hence limitation of growth of population.

In December 1971, the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that the long-term prospects for development, evaluated in terms of population and resources, were promising. Vast stretches of new land could be brought into production if underground water resources were developed, and it was suggested that Oman might become a food surplus country, as there was an "immense potential for growth" of cultivated land. A UNDP/FAO mission in 1972 reported that the country's agricultural and water resources had "a potential for a manifold increase in agricultural output". In a review of agriculture published in 1972 the Government stated that the sector had "an almost unlimited potential for expansion and development" and noted that there was an ever increasing demand for food and other agricultural products in Oman and abroad. The country was stated to be well on its way to "realizing its great agricultural potential". However, it reported that labour needed for such expansion was scarce.

In a general review published in 1972 the Government pointed out that in previous historical periods large areas had been cultivated but had been subsequently abandoned. The Department of Agriculture was finalizing a five-year plan for the sector, and this was described as potentially one of the most important development programmes. The Government pointed out that "if the population of the world is likely to double in the space of thirty years, then Oman, as a food producer, should be in a strong position"..."Estimates put the total area of land which could be brought under cultivation (much of it having been cultivated in past centuries) at about a quarter of a million acres, compared with less than 100,000 acres at present under cultivation."

In a speech reported in a national newspaper as having been made early in 1974 at the first meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Regional Project to Improve and Produce Food Field Crops in the Near East and North Africa, the Director of Agricultural Research stated that 91,000 acres were under cultivation out of a total area of 76,352,000 acres. The Government was aware of the technological and organizational backwardness of the agricultural sector. The immediate priority of the Government's general agricultural policy was the achievement of self-sufficiency in basic food crops, production of certain oil and sugar crops and improvements in technology. With the use of irrigation and improved varieties, considerable increases in production were considered possible. In September 1974 the Government stated that agricultural officials envisaged that farm income could be increased four fold in 20 years, i.e., the value of the product in the agricultural sector.

In November 1974 the Government stated that water supply was a major constraint upon use of the potential arable land. The problem of shortage of water was to some extent capable of solution by means of capital investment, made possible by the increased revenues received during the period. Thus, between 1970 and 1973 GDP increased from 115.4 million Omani rials to 175.1 million. Between 1968 and 1972 government revenues increased from $8.0 million to $156.0 million and since 1974 they increased still further. The expansion of the agricultural sector appeared to have been greater than that of population. Thus, during the

period 1967-1971 agricultural output at current market prices was estimated to have increased by an annual average rate of 4 per cent. In November 1974 the Government reported that the future was "filled with the promise of growth and development."

In its reply to the Second United Nations Population Inquiry, transmitted in August 1973, the Government stated that two of the three main constraints upon development were the shortage, and therefore the high cost, of labour, and the lack of a sufficient number of trained and experienced personnel. The separate identification of labour and trained personnel suggests that semi-skilled and unskilled labour were identified in the first group. This had implications for the Government perception of population growth. Given the scarcity of relevant information, the knowledge that previously growth might have been negative because of emigration and very high mortality, and the current availability of financial resources for rapid development of the apparently considerable natural and human resources, it appears probable that the Government found current population size inadequate and, therefore, a high rate of natural increase to be acceptable.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, transmitted in December 1976, the Government stated that it had no view concerning the acceptability of current rates of population growth because of the insufficiency of its information.

Policy with regard to size and growth

In its reply to the Second United Nations Population Inquiry, transmitted in August 1973, the Government included no specific statement of its policy with regard to population growth. In view of the severe shortages of labour required for expansion of the modern sector, the current relatively small size of population (considered by technical and economic advisers to be less than 500,000, and by the Government itself to be substantially larger) and the high levels of morbidity and mortality, including severe constraints imposed by the poor health status of the population upon fertility, it is probable that the Government considered current levels of natural increase at best to be acceptable, and possibly even deficient. Any acceleration resulting from decline in morbidity and mortality and rise in fertility would probably have been welcomed.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, transmitted in December 1976, the Government indicated that it had no formulated policy with regard to population growth. Because of insufficiency of its information it had not been able to establish whether adjustment of economic and social factors was more appropriate than adjustment of demographic factors in order to resolve problems arising from current rates of population growth.

Morbidity and mortality

Information available to the Government

In December 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission noted that a change from breast-feeding to bottle-feeding in unsanitary conditions had been reported to have caused a serious rise in infant mortality. Habits associated with pregnancy, birth, and child-rearing were reported to be harmful to health. Trachoma, malaria, tuberculosis, dysentery, bilharzia, smallpox are endemic. In 1972 UNICEF reported that midwifery services were non-existent. Infectious and parasitic diseases were common. In April 1973 UNICEF reported that the country faced numerous grave problems in the fields of health and nutrition. Protein calorie malnutrition was common. It was undertaking a survey of health and nutrition which was giving some attention to beliefs and practices relating to child-bearing. In November 1974 the Government pointed out that for the majority of the population fish was the major source of protein, and that the potential yield of coastal fisheries was enormous.

The Government did not announce any estimates of morbidity and mortality rates. In December 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that it was known that infant mortality was high, possibly over 500 per thousand live births, largely because of poor nutrition and poor environmental sanitation. In 1972 UNICEF reported that in some areas many children died immediately or soon after birth; maternal mortality was also high. In April 1973 UNICEF reported that the infant mortality rate was extremely high because of lack of knowledge of basic health practice and a relative lack of services. An academic review of information on the demographic situation published in December 1975 suggested that the crude death rate was then 27.0 per thousand and the infant mortality rate 220.0 per thousand. The estimates were stated to be those most plausible on the basis of tables of life expectancy of the Coale and Demeny type and the adjusted age distribution of the population.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, which it transmitted in December 1976, the Government stated that its information was so insufficient that it was unable to identify its perceptions of the adequacy of current levels of morbidity and mortality, and unable to calculate the feasibility of achieving certain future specified levels.

In a review of available demographic information published by the Population Division of ECWA in April 1978, it was reported that the crude death rate in 1972 had been calculated by the United States Bureau of the Census at 19 per thousand population, and the same rate had been estimated by the Division itself for 1975 on the basis of unpublished information. Average life expectancy at birth for these two years and from the same two sources were reported to be 47 and 46 years. For 1972 the Bureau of the Census had estimated an infant mortality rate of 138 per thousand live births; no estimate had been made by the Division for 1975.

Government perception of levels of morbidity and mortality

The Government perceived current high levels of morbidity and mortality to be unacceptable and thought that intervention to reduce them should have the highest priority. Thus in November 1974 it reported that it was its firm belief that "without the good foundation of a healthy population, development of other sectors will be meaningless".

Policy with regard to morbidity and mortality

UNDP reported that since 1970 the Government had implemented an urgent programme of provision of basic health services, notably in the extension of modern health care to areas outside the metropolitan centre. Emphasis was given to preventive health and environmental sanitation. A series of local health centres would provide both curative and preventive services, including ante-natal and post-natal care. In 1972 and 1973 UNICEF reported that the Government policy was "to establish and strengthen a basic infrastructure for the gradual development of health education and social services facilities throughout the country, with particular emphasis on the welfare of mothers, children and adolescents." Development of a long-term plan was made extremely difficult by the limited existing services and lack of trained personnel. In 1972 it was reported that the Government planned to extend preventive services. During the period 1973-1975 the Government intended to open 10 urban preventive health centres. The World Health Organization (WHO) had been requested to send survey teams for malaria, tuberculosis, trachoma and nutrition.

With assistance from WHO and from Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt, the Government formulated and implemented its health policy. Initial emphasis was given to collection of information, preventive health, school health, health infrastructure and personnel training. Particular attention was given to maternal and child health. In February 1972 a Director of Preventive Health was appointed. In 1973 UNICEF reported that a cultural anthropological study on "the traditional beliefs, practices and customs of the female sub-culture" in Oman began in October 1972 with financial support from the Ford Foundation. The Government hoped to use its findings to develop maternal and child health services, related training, and school curricula development. It was proposed that a woman expert be provided to help a pilot project in Muscat and Matrah which was designed to establish, organize and guide women's associations for the education of mothers in child-bearing and child-rearing and in household management.

Government expenditure has reflected its concern. In 1971 it allocated 1.7 million Omani rials out of a development expenditure of 20.0 million to health and 0.7 million to housing and in 1972 2.3 million and 2.1 million out of 29.9 million, respectively. As a result, the availability of infrastructure and personnel has increased rapidly.

In 1972 the Government reported that in July 1970 there had been only 35 health personnel in 10 clinics in the government services. There was

no government hospital, only the American Missions' General Hospital at Matrah and Maternity Hospital at Muscat. However, two government hospitals were under construction.

In June 1975 WHO began a project designed initially to completely control malaria and finally to achieve its eradication. A programme of safe water supply to rural communities was also begun.

Between 1970 and 1973 the number of hospital beds increased from 276 to 825 and the number of doctors from 33 to 122. In 1970 there had been only 1 hospital, 10 dispensaries and 9 health clinics. In 1972 there were 4 hospitals, 21 dispensaries and 10 health clinics with 46 doctors and 35 nurses.

In its 1972 Statistical Yearbook the Government reported that the number of beds in government and civil hospitals and health centres had increased from 39 in 1970 to 490 in 1972, while the number of doctors had increased from 17 to 62 in the same period. In 1972, 9 of the doctors were women. The numbers of nurses had increased from 35 to 117, and of other health personnel from 105 to 329. Of the 490 hospital beds in December 1972, 252 were within the Greater Muscat area, and 60 were in Salalah. In September 1974 the Government reported that by 1973 the number of hospital beds had increased to 825, that of doctors to 122 and of nurses to 291.

Fertility

Information available to the Government

No Government or United Nations estimates are available. In 1971 the United Nations Cairo Demographic Centre published a collection of studies of fertility in Arab countries, based on research conducted during 1969 and 1970. No papers were included with respect to Oman, and it was not included in the three comparative studies for Arab countries. In December 1973 an Expert Group Meeting on Fertility was held in Beirut, and was attended by government officials, but no information was made available for the country. In an academic review of the demographic situation published in December 1975 it was estimated that the crude birth rate in 1972 was 50.0 per thousand of the population. No age-specific rates could be estimated. From knowledge of adjacent socially and demographically similar countries, it may be assumed that fertility is at least moderately high, and constrained only by unsatisfactory health and sanitary conditions. In 1973 the Government published a report on the family and child birth.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, which it transmitted in December 1976, the Government stated that its information was so insufficient that it was unable to evaluate the acceptability of current levels and trends in fertility.

In a review of available demographic information published by the Population Division of ECWA in April 1978, it was stated that a crude

birth rate of 50 per thousand population had been estimated for 1972 by the United States Bureau of the Census. The same rate was estimated for 1975 from unpublished data by the Population Division of ECWA. The Division also estimated a gross reproduction rate of 3.0 and a total fertility rate of 7.3 for the same year and from the same sources.

Government perception of levels and trends of fertility

No statement of the Government perception of levels and trends in rates of fertility is known. It is probable that the population in general has a relatively conservative view of fertility behaviour. In contrast to the population of the United Arab Emirates to the north, which is orthodox Sunni, the population of much of Oman is of the Ibadiya sect. These have been described in a general review of the country published in 1959 as sober in character and adhering strictly to the proscriptive tenets of Islam.

Policy with regard to fertility

In December 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that no general awareness of the question of family planning was evident within the Government. No official or unofficial representative attended the conference on induced abortion held in Beirut in February 1971 and organized by the Middle East and North Africa region of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). In August 1973 IPPF reported that the Government had not announced its policy with regard to family planning. Contraceptives could be obtained through commercial outlets and at private hospitals and dispensaries. No statement of Government policy is known to have been made. It was known to be interested, however, in beginning a programme of social work directed to improve maternal and child care practices.

Until very recently, women were largely secluded and lived within what UNICEF reported in 1972 was a "female subculture with its own beliefs and superstitutious practices". The Government was reported to favour studies designed to develop action programme to improve the status of women. Considerable attention was given to the expansion of education, including that for girls and women.

Prior to 1970 education had been limited to Koranic schools and to very limited primary education in the metropolitan centre. The United Nations Secretariat reported that in August 1970 there were only two schools, one in Muscat and the other at Matrah. After 1970 the Government embarked upon an ambitious programme. In 1971 0.8 million Omani rials and, in 1972, 1.6 million were allocated to education out of development totals of 20.0 and 29.9 million, respectively.

In December 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that the proportion of girls in Koranic schools was extremely low. Expansion of education for girls was planned. By 1972/73 50 primary schools

were to be operating, of which three or four would be for girls. In its Statistical Yearbook for 1972 the Government stated that in 1969/70 there had been 900 boys but no girls at primary and preparatory levels. By 1972/73 there were 20,303 boys and 4,032 girls in primary and 106 boys and 40 girls in preparatory school. In November 1974 the Government reported that the number of female students had increased from 1,136 in 1970 to 7,658 in 1973.

During November 1973 an anti-illiteracy programme was begun with emphasis upon the 12-16 age group, and with the support of the Arab Organization for Education, Culture and Science. The initial number of students was 1,871 men and 573 women. However, because not all children attend school, the number of illiterates has been increasing and the unavailability of personnel proved a major constraint upon resolving the problem.

In September 1974 the United Nations Development Programme reported that about 80 per cent of the population were illiterate, and that only a quarter of the relevant age group was enrolled in primary schools. Only 23 per cent and 0.2 per cent of respective age groups were enrolled in primary and secondary education. However, the Government planned to achieve universal primary education and to expand secondary education by 1985.

Immigration

Information available to the Government

In its Statistical Yearbook for 1972 the Government noted that many of the Omanis who had emigrated previously to neighbouring countries had returned after July 1970. In the private sector in 1972 the expatriate labour force was 14,500 (out of a total of 35,000), while in the government sector (excluding police and military) the expatriate labour force was 553, 10.4 per cent of the total. Of the 735 teachers in the country, 42.7 were non-Omanis.

In neither its reply to the Second United Nations Population Inquiry transmitted in 1973, nor that to the Third Inquiry, transmitted in December 1976, did the Government make any specific statement of its policy with regard to fertility. In the latter reply, it indicated that the insufficiency of information precluded policy formulation. In November 1974 the Government reported that the number of expatriates in government employment had increased from 120 in 1970 to 1,670 in 1973. It was most probable, however, that a large number of unskilled immigrants were not included in these statistics.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, which it transmitted in December 1976, the Government stated that it had no view concerning the acceptability of rates of emigration because of the insufficiency of its information.

Government perception of levels and trends of immigration

In September 1974 UNDP reported that the Government acknowledged that reliance upon foreign labour would continue for "several years to come" in order to sustain economic growth, and in spite of the priority being given to education and training.

Policy with regard to immigration

In 1971 the United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported that the Government had decreed that Omani nationals had to replace expatriate workers within seven years, but it was then considered doubtful if this goal could be achieved.

Emigration

Prior to July 1970 many Omanis had emigrated to neighbouring countries. However, after 1970 emigration had ended, and many had returned. Thus in 1973 the Government noted that "large numbers of Omanis, who had been compelled to live abroad in previous times, have returned to Oman".

The Government perceives emigration to be detrimental to the achievement of its development objectives, particularly with respect to the loss of trained personnel.

Since July 1970 the Government has made every effort to induce the repatriation of nationals previous resident abroad, particularly those with skills which could be used in development. Because of the severe shortage of suitable housing and other economic and social infrastructure, an urgent programme was undertaken to achieve their construction. In December 1971 it was suggested by the United Nations interdisciplinary mission that a survey of Omani labour forces outside the country would assist in the development of the Government policies designed to induce the repatriation of skilled labour.

Spatial distribution

Information available to the Government

In 1971 the Government estimated that only about 100,000 acres of land were under cultivation. The inhabited coastal plains constituted 9,000 square kilometres of the national total of 300,000. In April 1973 the United Nations Children's Fund reported that the area under cultivation was estimated at less than 0.15 per cent of the total. In November 1974 the Government announced that FAO was to co-operate with it in the undertaking of an economic and social survey of the rural population.

In September and November 1974 the Government noted that about 80 per cent of the population was engaged in agriculture, livestock-raising and fisheries.

In 1972 the numbers of gainfully occupied males in agriculture had been estimated at 109,000 out of a total of 150,000. A similar number of women presumably worked in the agricultural sector. In December 1971 the proportion of nomadics was stated to be about 10 per cent.

In November 1966, June 1969 and August 1970 the United Nations Secretariat had reported that the estimated population of the capital, Muscat, was nearly 6,000 and that of Matrah about 14,000. Only 40,000 of the total population of 750,000 were resident in Dhofar Province. In April 1973 it was reported that estimated populations in Matrah and Muscat, the joint centres within the metropolitan region, were 18,000 and 15,000, respectively, and that three other urban centres, Sohar, Sur, and Niqwa, had populations of between 11,000 and 13,000.

In its reply to the Third United Nations Population Inquiry, which it transmitted in December 1976, the Government stated that it had no view of the acceptability of the spatial distribution of the population because of the insufficiency of information.

A former foreign adviser and subsequent member of the Government during the period 1972 to 1975, in a study published in 1977, reported estimates of the distribution of population among regions based upon technical and economic surveys the results of which had been published during the period 1972-1975. These represented the breakdown of a total population estimated at 425,000, substantially lower than that adopted by the Government for planning purposes. The regional totals were 102,500 (Batinah), 28,000 (seaward foothills), 27,600 (mountains and mountain valleys), 120,400 (inland foothills), 20,000 (desert), 11,500 (Sur region), 50,000 (Dhofar), 15,000 (Musandam) and 50,000 in the capital area, Muscat and Matrah.

Government perception of spatial distribution of population

The Government indicated that the general pattern of distribution of population was acceptable but that technological and organizational modernization *in situ* was a priority. It perceived any large-scale rural to urban migration to be undesirable.

Policy with regard to spatial distribution

The Government gave high priority to the modernization of the system of human settlements, which prior to 1970 had been characterized by the atrophy of a well developed urban system and substantial decline of the former metropolitan centre, Muscat. Provision of a complete modern urban economic and social infrastructure was considered essential as the base from which more comprehensive development could be extended. In the Decree which established the Supreme Planning Council and the Centre for Economic

and Development Planning in 1972, it was stated that the functions of the Department of Planning within the centre included "amalgamation of the economic and development plans at the sectoral, regional and local levels". In 1972 UNDP reported that a regional and physical planning department has been established in the Ministry of Development. Special attention was given to the development of the least well integrated region, that of Dhofar. In 1971 2.2 million out of the development budget of 20.0 million Omani rials and in 1972 5.3 out of 29.9 million were allocated to development of the Dhofar region, for which a Development Board had been created. In September and October 1974 the Government reported that regional development of Dhofar was then being undertaken.

In 1973 the Government reported that consultants and specialists in urban planning had been requested to co-operate with the Centre for Economic Planning and Development in the projection of the future demands upon the economy of the proposed urban developments in terms of capital, labour and materials. The urban sector was to be closely co-ordinated within the plans and projections for the national economy.

After 1970 the Government realized that in the circumstances of the rapid urban growth which had become necessary in order to provide the economic and social infrastructure necessary for national development, particularly in the metropolitan centre, it was necessary to formulate an urban development plan for the Greater Muscat area, including Muscat, Matrah, and the Batinah coast as far north as Sib. Foreign consultants were retained to carry out this programme. The general recommendations of a French planner, M. Ecochard, were adopted. A new town, Madinat Qabus, was to be constructed for high-income national and foreign officials outside the existing city. The Greater Muscat area was expected to have a population of between 120,000 and 140,000 "in the near future". An industrial zone was to be established at Sib, near the international airport. In September 1974 the Government reported that contracts had been awarded for construction of a new town in the Ruwi valley, within the Greater Muscat area.

Information on residential and official buildings completed during the period 1970-1972 indicated a very considerable concentration in the Greater Muscat are. The 1972 Statistical Yearbook noted that 19.6 million of the 29.9 million Omani rials allocated to development in 1972 were for physical infrastructure, including housing, and most of this was in the metropolitan region. The same degree of primacy existed with regard to provision of social services. Thus, in 1972/73, 7,584 of the 20, 409 students in various educational levels were in the metropolitan district; 1,058 of the 1,208 telephone lines installed by the end of 1972 were in the Greater Muscat area, and 252 of the 490 hospital beds were in the metropolitan centre. However, six hospitals, eight health centres, and 29 dispensaries were located in other regions.

In February 1976 it was reported that the population of the capital area had grown from 25,000 to 80,000 during the period 1970-1971, and this growth had severely strained the Government's capacity for providing housing, utilities and services.

However, the Government simultaneously attempted to add modern infrastructure in the second and third order urban centres. Thus, in March 1973 the Government reported that consultants had been retained to prepare an urban development plan for Salalah, the regional centre of Dhofar. In July 1974 the Government announced that housing for 1,000 low income families, and recreational centres, would be provided in Salalah and in six other second and third order urban centres. In September 1974 it was reported that planning departments had been established for the towns of Salalah and Raysut, which would be transformed into a deepwater all-weather harbour.

The Government has also given considerable attention to modernization of the rural sector, including a conscious effort to prevent large-scale out-migration. An important component of the policy has been to induce higher prices for agricultural produce, and to provide adequate utilities and services. In a report on agriculture published in 1972 the Government stated that in many countries economic expansion and urban growth had resulted in rural emigration and consequent depression of the agricultural sector. The Government had realized that if real economic progress were to be achieved, full use of agricultural resources had to be mobilized, and this would necessitate not only prevention of rural emigration, but also technological training of the rural labour force. It was admitted that this would be difficult because the attractions of the larger cities had always proved strong in developing countries. The Government had taken steps "to encourage agricultural labourers to continue in agriculture, rather than migrate to the cities". In March 1972 large areas of government-owned agriculturally fertile land had been leased for 49 years at nominal rent. Automatic renewal would occur, or compensation given for improvements paid. In addition it was stated that the Government had attempted to provide social and economic services "so that the farmer and his family will not have to migrate to the cities to obtain these services". The entire "green stage" of the Development Strategy was designed to provide comprehensive infrastructure and services to the entire country, particularly to the rural area. A programme of safe water provision in selected rural communities was begun in 1975.

A UNDP/FAO mission in 1972 identied as areas in which the development potential was high the Batinah coastal plain, extending northwards from the metropolitan centre, the interior of Oman, and the foothills and coastal plain of Dhofar. In 1974 it was reported in a Beirut newspaper that the development of agriculture and infrastructure in the immediate area of the Salalah coastal plain was being undertaken using foreign consultants.

In September 1974 the Government reported that its plans for the development of agriculture included measures to increase productivity and to expand cultivated land into new areas. As part of the plan for Dhofar, contractors had been retained to construct nine small village settlements in the Jebel area, with low income group housing, mosque, shops and administrative offices. Other new settlements were being constructed. The United Nations interdisciplinary mission reported in December 1971 that efforts were then being made to settle the nomadic population.

CONCLUSION

In July 1970, the end of the first period defined for the purpose of this study, the demographic situation had been scarcely affected by modern economic and social processes, with the sole exception of the emigration of substantial numbers of young men to oil-exporting countries to the north-west. Levels of morbidity and mortality were probably very high, and may have approached the moderately high levels of fertility, resulting in a very low rate of natural increase. Fertility behaviour was entirely traditional, and strongly affected by the poor health of women. There was little immigration. The patterns of spatial distribution of the population reflected the traditional organization of the economy and society.

With the economic and political changes which occurred in the last years of the 1960s and the first years of the 1970s, new economic and social factors began to bring about substantial changes in the demographic situation. The most immediate change was the reversal of previous international migration flows. Emigration almost completely disappeared. Immigration rose to very high levels. Some movement into urban areas occurred from adjacent rural areas, particularly into the metropolitan region. Although health services expanded considerably and undoubtedly began to have an impact upon levels of morbidity and mortality, it is probable that only with a more comprehensive modernization would these levels decline drastically. It is unlikely that significant changes in fertility behaviour have yet occurred.

Faced with the establishment of entirely new institutional arrangements for development planning and for information collection and with the need to concentrate attention upon the resolution of problems in Dhofar, the Government stated that information available to it was insufficient to allow its formulation of a comprehensive population policy. Its actual development measures did in fact represent an unstated policy, however, and consisted of support for reduction in mortality, maintenance of fertility and hence acceleration in natural increase, continued immigration under controlled conditions, and appropriate local changes in the pattern of spatial distribution of the population.

Oman: Selected demographic indicators, 1950-2000

The Population Division of the United Nations has not prepared for Oman the comprehensive set of estimates and projections, covering most demographic processes, which it has for most countries. The information which is tabulated below represents the only information additional to that published in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook

Population and annual rate of growth, 1950-1970

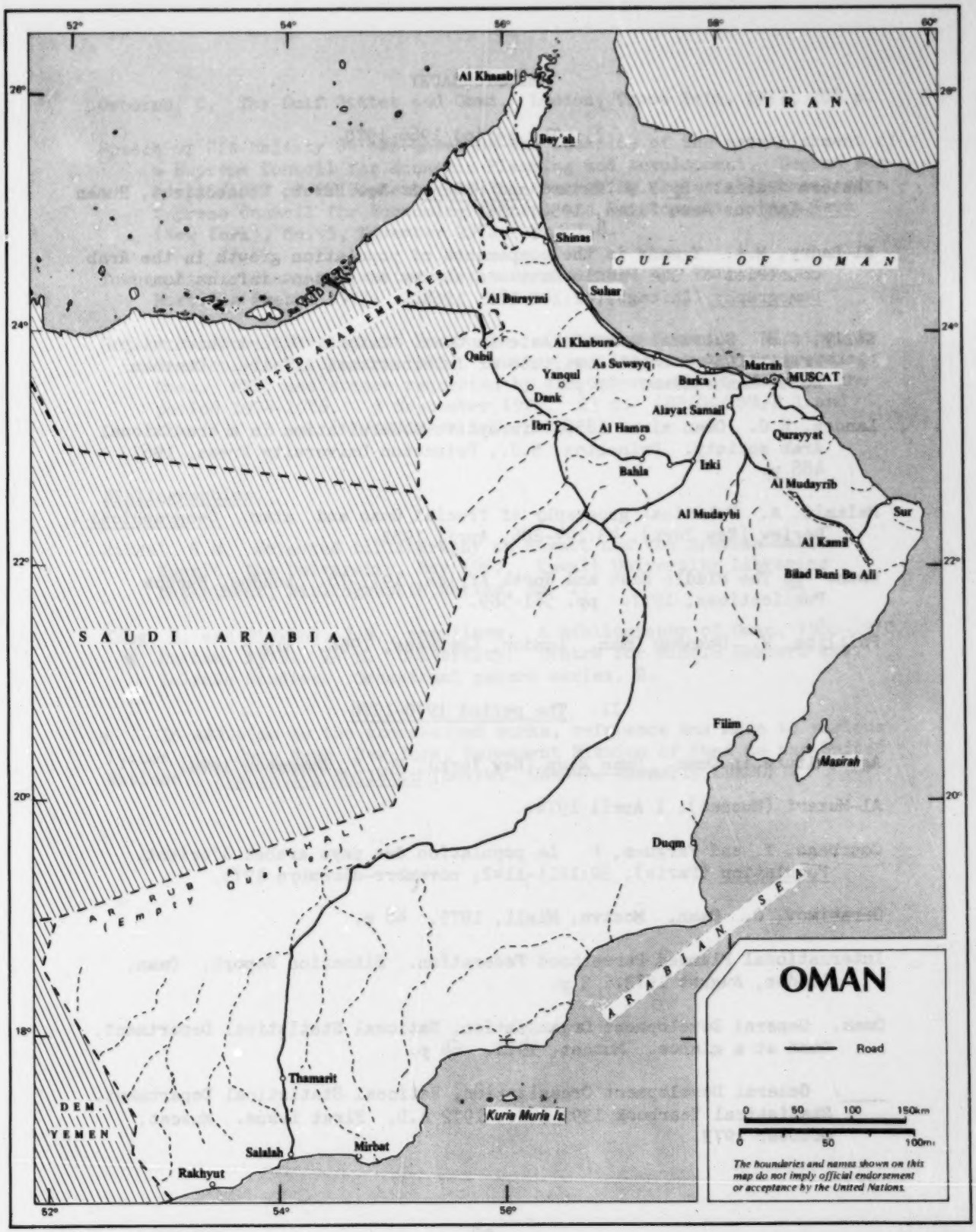
Population (thousands)					Annual rates of growth (percentage)			
1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1950-1955	1955-1960	1960-1965	1965-1970
390	437	494	565	657	2.28	2.45	2.69	3.02

Source: World Population Prospects, as Assessed in 1973 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.XIII.4), tables 28, 30, 31 and 32.

Population and annual rates of growth, 1970-2000

	Population (thousands)							Annual rates of growth (percentage)					
	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	1970-1975	1975-1980	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000
Medium variant	657	766	898	1,053	1,231	1,429	1,639	3.08	3.17	3.18	3.12	2.99	2.74
High variant	657	766	900	1,061	1,250	1,470	1,716	3.08	3.22	3.28	3.29	3.24	3.10
Low variant	657	765	893	1,041	1,204	1,370	1,530	3.05	3.10	3.06	2.91	2.59	2.21
Constant variant	657	766	900	1,063	1,262	1,508	1,811	3.08	3.22	3.33	3.43	3.55	3.67

Source: World Population Prospects, as Assessed in 1973 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.XIII.4), tables 28, 30, 31 and 32.



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